



DC COMMISSION ON THE ARTS & HUMANITIES



# Art Enables

Outsider Art Inside The Beltway

Illustration art by Art Enables

**OCTOBER 2009**



DC COMMISSION ON  
THE ARTS & HUMANITIES

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ADRIAN M. FENTY, MAYOR  
District of Columbia

## OUTSIDER ART

## Art Enables

WRITTEN BY ALEXANDRA GINIGER



Art by Payman Janzi

"My dream as an artist is to continue to draw and to design and to start my own business... What inspires my artwork is excellence, and the encouragement to continue my dream." This may sound like a typical artist's statement when describing the passion she feels for her work, but not all artists have had the same life experiences as **Charmaine Jones**, one of the thirty adult artists with developmental and/or mental disabilities working at the **Art Enables** studio and gallery in Northeast DC. These artists have a range of disabilities, from autism, Down's syndrome, cerebral palsy, traumatic brain injury and mental retardation, to schizophrenia, bipolar disorder and borderline personality disorder. Often it is difficult, if not almost impossible, for these artists to express their thoughts and experiences through words, but Art Enables provides an outlet for their participants through artistic expression.



Established in 2000, **Art Enables** helps its participants develop into professional artists who specialize in differing media, including acrylic paint, watercolor, colored pencil, marker, oil paint, and pastel. "Taking responsibility for their work and materials, bonding with their colleagues and teachers, and having people take their art seriously," says founder and executive director, **Joyce Muis-Lowrey**, "breaks the isolation that is sometimes felt by people with disabilities." The arts provide a certain aspect of accessibility for both artists with disabilities, and also those who view their works. Art has the power to enrich both the lives of the disabled artists and the people who appreciate their talent.

In its incredibly fluid nature, art is a perfect way for those of any ability to express themselves, overcome challenges, and find success in this expression. Perhaps Art Enables artist, **Clem Evans**, says it best: "You can't say what you can't do unless you really try. No matter what it looks like, just go for it!"

## VIDEO SPOTLIGHT



Watch the video to learn more about Art Enables

## Art Enables

**Art Enables** is a studio and gallery established to promote artists with developmental and/or mental disabilities.

411 New York Avenue, NE  
Washington, DC 20002  
(202)554-9455

[www.art-enables.org](http://www.art-enables.org)

[www.youtube.com/user/ArtEnables](https://www.youtube.com/user/ArtEnables)

Executive Director: Joyce A. Muis-Lowery



# MEET THE ARTISTS

Written by Joyce Muis-Lowery  
Photos by Anne Doyle



**Allison Bell** is a DC native whose interest in art goes way back and who has a particular knack for capturing African-American style. Six of her images have been collected in a set of Kwanzaa cards, and she is a favorite among collectors specializing in the African diaspora. Becoming an accomplished artist is just one of Allison's goals. The others include going to college, attending acting school and becoming a model.



**Maurice "Mo" Higgs** Despite a recent bout with cancer, Mo is back at his artwork with the same casual confidence that staff has learned to expect from him. Mo is one of the few Art Enables artists who works exclusively in the abstract, layering vibrant colors and heavy textures, usually overlaying the whole with lineal accents. Mo is the oldest artist in the program but that doesn't stop him from calling the people he really likes "Old Man".



**Sonny Clarke** comes across as the quintessential strong, silent type, especially when he's wearing his jeans, cowboy hat and scarf. But then his face bursts into a huge smile, and you realize he's really more the teddy bear type. Vis-à-vis his art, he can surprise in the same way, one time engaging a new material or medium with enthusiasm and the next time going on strike. The temperament of a real artist.



**Payman Janzi** suffered a traumatic brain injury as a teenager that left him impaired in his mobility and unable to speak, but it hasn't for a moment stopped Payman from laughing and joking and trying to make trouble when things get slow at the lunch table. Payman's artwork radiates happiness: everyone and everything is smiling--the people, the birds, the flowers--and the colors are consistently bright and uncompromising.



**Melissa Cory** is enthusiastic. She loves color--rainbow rocks are a specialty. She loves people--her work is full of them. She loves family--a mother duck with ducklings, lots of sisters, the whole clan around the kitchen table. Melissa's work is a particular favorite of collectors of native art, as witnessed by her tremendous success of her work at the Intuit Outsider Art Fair in Chicago in 2007.



**Charmaine Jones** was born prematurely and suffered a stroke when she was only four years old. But despite the rough start, it would be hard to find someone whose joy in life is more evident. It's in her laugh which is never far from the surface and in her artwork which resonates with color and energy and often includes hearts or flowers, the signature of her generous spirit.



**Egbert "Clem" Evans** ('Clem' to his friends) was reintroduced to painting many years ago by a rehabilitation therapist treating him for stroke damage. Art is now a passion to which he brings enormous discipline and focus. Clem collects mental snapshots as he makes his way through the city, memorizing the scene at the bus stop or the face of the conductor, all of which find their way into his extremely painterly canvases back at the studio.



**Paul Lewis** is a natural. He draws as easily and as rhythmically as most people breathe. Although Paul works without apparent premeditation, the resulting composition is always in proportion to the surface: he never runs out of room and never has room left over. Paul is equally at home in acrylic, watercolor or oil pastel. He prefers strong color and uses line work to create both form and texture. His work is a particular favorite with home decorators.



**Raul Ghormley** Down Syndrome can make words difficult, but Raul's language is art. He introduces himself to visitors to the studio by showing them his current work in progress and pointing out his framed pieces on the wall. It is through his art that one learns that Raul's family is from Peru, he was born in July, he loves bands and flags and things military, and his world is full of vibrant color and charmingly rendered people and places.



**Raymond Lewis** When he was a child, Raymond's father told him that art was a gift, and that gift continues to be one of which Raymond is rightfully very proud. Raymond is himself very unassuming and self-spoken, but his art is often suffused with an incredible drama, even melodrama. He was once commissioned to create a rendering of four accountants standing in a garden. The result looked very like a scene from *The Sopranos*, and the buyer was delighted!



**Qin Xi Lin**, Art Enables' first resident artist, came to the United States from his native China in 1996 at the invitation of a deaf theater company. His technical prowess as a visual artist is a product of the formalized training he received in China, but the quixotic composition and unlikely narrative in his work mark him as a powerful fabulist. Since he came to this country, Qin Xi has learned to write English and to sign in ASL but his paintings remain his strongest communication tool.



**Olivia Mitchell** is able to infuse just about any image with drama. In Olivia's hands a rainy day in small town West Virginia can take on the charged atmosphere of a set from a film noir. Add to this that Olivia is interested in all things exotic, be it other cultures, strange tropical fish or vintage film stars. The result is a portfolio of excellent work and a very loyal fan base.



**Violet Lucas** is a no-nonsense person. She doesn't stroll, she strides. She doesn't test the waters, she plunges in. She can find a Betty Boop clip on YouTube faster than most of us can find the browser. She's on a mission, and she knows what she wants. The result, at the studio, is a broad spectrum of really interesting artwork, much of which is surprisingly lyric as if it is in that artwork that Violet does her dreaming.



**Vanessa Monroe** is a very self-directed and very resourceful artist. She works four days a week in the studio and never runs out of either ideas or enthusiasm. She is comfortable using watercolor or oil pastel or acrylic. Her results are equally effective if her "canvas" is a canvas, a bird house or a gourd. Vanessa is also training to become an advocate—for herself and for other people with developmental disabilities.



**Alice Jean McGurkin's** career in public policy was ended when she was sidelined by a nervous breakdown. Today, her art is playing an important role in helping her conquer her anxieties and re-engage with the community. The success of her art in the market, especially among women (although many a man has also walked off with a piece), renews her self-confidence.



**Paul McGown** as a teenage, Paul suffered a traumatic brain injury when he was struck in the head by a bullet from a gun his friend was playing with. He's not letting that injury interfere with his dreams, though, he'd be the first to tell you that. At the studio, Paul uses his phone to take pictures of his artwork so he can show his mom, the woman he credits with inspiring him to do art. His specialty is landscapes.



**Charles Meissner** has a prodigious memory, an uncanny eye for geography and a broad-ranging interest in people and the media. It was that combination, which resulted in a invitation from NASA for Charles to create a work focused on the moon landing for the celebratory exhibit marking the 50th anniversary of space travel. Fans of Charles are drawn, in particular, to the stream of consciousness commentary that elucidates many of his pieces.



**Shawn Payne** had only worked with drawing materials before coming to Art Enables, but is proving to be a quick study with watercolors and acrylic paints. He prefers to create images from his imagination, rather than from pictures, and his favorite subjects are shoes because of his "strong interest in fashion". He is equally adept at drawing anything that strikes his fancy such as an assembly of musical instruments to communicate his love of jazz, particularly that of saxophonist Boney James.



**Mehnaz Mini Mohammed** It is a token of Mini's enthusiasm for being "in the moment" that she creates for herself an environment in which to do her artwork, surrounding the work surface with a collection of stuffed animals, a few purses and bags and her cell phone. It's from this home base that she operates, making friends and making art. The fun thing is that the art that she makes pleases Mini herself as much as anyone.



**James Powers** is proud to be the first-ever Art Enables artist. In fact, the archives include a photo of him working diligently on his art while staff painted the walls of the program's first studio even before the program was officially open. Back then James artwork consisted of endlessly repeated trucks, mugs, people and weed whackers in colored pencil on craft paper, a far cry from today's rabbits and still lifes and schools of fish in oil pastel, acrylic, watercolor and fabric dyes.





**Max Poznerzon** really likes Art Enables. All of the artists, do, actually, but in Max's case that is high praise, indeed, given that he has "flunked out" of more programs than most people ever see. The freedom to follow his own ideas in his art, the camaraderie of hanging out with the other artists and the chance to earn income from something he really enjoys doing is for Max a winner.



**Jamila Rahimi** initially, (whose "real" first name is Mariam) was only comfortable with watercolor as a medium. She would add some accents in pencil or ink, but it was the watercolor that gave her work its substance. She still makes great watercolor pieces, but today Jamila's portfolio includes a 3' by 3' acrylic on canvas, aluminum tooling and acrylic on wood. And she's just getting started.



**Connie Reinwald** is a determined woman that doesn't let things stand in her way, not even the cerebral palsy that makes it difficult for her get the brush or pencil to do what she wants it to. She perseveres, and the degree to which she is succeeding is reflected in the increasingly sophisticated subject matter she is willing to tackle and the success with which she sculpts the final product.



**Michael Schaff** works almost exclusively with sharpies and pencils and paint markers. They are easy to hold and easy to control, and they allow him to create textures by .... scribbling. There is no other good word for the technique. But the result is a wonderfully dense surface that is sometimes exclusively color and texture and sometimes representational--a herd of cows, for example. For Michael it's process; for his fans it's the riot of color and texture.



**Chris Schallhorn** The only problem with Chris and art is getting Chris to the studio to do some--a side effect of the depression which has plagued him for most of his life. But once Chris gets working, he's unstoppable. He likes working in acrylic on wood best, and has developed a personal idiom which grew out of his fascination with the quilts his aunt designs. The iterations of color and form offer security and freedom at the same time, a perfect combination.



**Eileen Schofield** the artist shares the stage with Eileen the singer (in the church choir) and Eileen the greeter and busgirl (at Potter's House). Eileen's artwork appeals to fans across the spectrum, but in particular the collector of outsider art. Her iconography is naïve but her colors, both in their intensity and their combinations, can be very sophisticated. Eileen has a great deal of patience and can good-naturedly work as long as it takes to get a piece to just the place she wants it.



**John Simpson** will tell you that he likes his job--that job being making art. "It gives me something to do and then I get paid for it!" John is a natural. His architectural renderings are deft and sophisticated. His pet portraits are a huge success. His motorcycles (John once had one) betray the affection he has for those powerful and well-modeled machines. John came to Art Enables with a lot of skills but a bit of a lazy eye. That period is past. John's work just gets better.



**Margie Smeller** is, so far, the only artist at Art Enables who has been given her own one-woman show: "Deconstruct" at the Katayama Gallery in Portland, OR, featured Margie's renderings in acrylic on canvas of the work of eleven West Coast photographers. At the studio, Margie gravitates toward intricate drawings rendered in intense color with graphic clarity and slyly biographical references. They are a favorite with collectors.



**Robin Wheeler** once talked about her pleasure in being at the studio and creating her art in terms about as evocative as any professional art critic or historian. "Paintings", she said, "show a little bit of something you have in you--what your mind's eye sees." Robin's mind's eye has a broad and penetrating range, and the earnestness with which she addresses her work is an index to just how important it is to her that she get it right.



**Harold Whitlow** There are lots of things one can predict in Harold's artwork. For example, no matter how unlikely his color combination is, it always works. No matter what scale he works in, the result is always proportionate and balanced. No matter how inanimate his subject is, his rendering of it is always animated. The only thing one can't predict about Harold, and the thing that keeps his audience coming back, is ... What will he think of next?

# ACCESS THROUGH THE ARTS:



NATIONAL  
ENDOWMENT  
FOR THE ARTS

**WRITTEN BY PAULA TERRY**

Director, AccessAbility Office, National Endowment for the Arts



Photo by Mimi Xang Ho

Everyone should have opportunities to be involved in all aspects of the arts, and the **DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities**, as well as arts groups throughout the city, plays an important role in making this happen. Inclusive programming involves opening up existing activities to welcome individuals with disabilities as artists, staff, board members, panelists, presenters, students, and audience members. **The National Endowment for the Arts** works closely with all state arts agencies to assure that the arts are fully accessible to everyone, including people with disabilities, veterans, people who live in institutions, and older adults.



## CONVENING STAKEHOLDERS

The first essential step to achieving inclusiveness is to consult with the targeted population by developing a working advisory committee comprised of individuals with various disabilities, staff, and a board member to evaluate, in terms of accessibility, your organization's policies, communications, programs, spaces, and website, and conduct access awareness seminars for staff and constituents.

## NATIONAL SUMMIT ON CAREERS IN THE ARTS FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

"Nothing about us, without us" was a theme that emerged from the 1970s' disability rights movement—which was echoed at the National Summit on Careers in the Arts for People with Disabilities that convened at the **John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts** on July 22-24, 2009.

Initiated and organized by the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with the Kennedy Center and eight other public and private agencies, Summit participants reviewed progress over the past decade on educational and career opportunities in the arts, assessed current needs and barriers to full participation of people with disabilities as professionals in the arts, and developed recommendations for advancing full participation. The D.C. Commission's Accessibility Coordinator, **Keona Pearson**, was one of 130 invitees who participated in this working meeting that included artists with disabilities, arts administrators, educators, staff of disability service groups, and key personnel from participating federal and state agencies. Another major recommendation emanating from the Summit is that cultural organizations include "disability" in the definition of "diversity."

**Kareem Dale**, Special Assistant to President Obama on Arts, Culture, and Disability Policy, received a standing ovation for his keynote that included an announcement that on July 24th, the President would sign legislation concerning this country's global commitment to fundamental human rights for persons with disabilities. The Summit Report, including final recommendations, will be posted on both the NEA website and the Kennedy Center website once completed later this fall.

## BENEFITTING THE LARGER PUBLIC

Improving accessibility benefits populations served by cultural organizations. For example:

**Captioned television and video** helps improve children's reading skills. Many individuals use captions to learn English as a second language, and museums find that using open captions on their videos helps to keep the noise level at a minimum.

**Audio description** for people with vision loss improves the observation skills of children and adults.

**Universal design** goes beyond minimum accessibility standards to make spaces usable by people from childhood until their oldest years. Buildings that are universally designed are more comfortable for the general public, and studies show that there are considerably fewer accidents in universally designed spaces.





## NEA OFFICE FOR ACCESSABILITY

The NEA's Office for AccessAbility serves as an advocate for physically and mentally challenged individuals by encouraging access to the arts through technology.

Director, AccessAbility: Paula Terry  
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20506  
(202)682-5532  
[www.arts.endow.gov](http://www.arts.endow.gov)



## VSA ARTS

VSA arts is an international nonprofit organization founded 35 years ago by Ambassador Jean Kennedy Smith to create a society where people with disabilities learn through, participate in, and enjoy the arts.

President: Soula Antoniou  
818 Connecticut Avenue, NW Suite 600  
Washington, DC 20006  
(202)628-2800  
[www.vsarts.org](http://www.vsarts.org)



## SMITH FARM CENTER FOR HEALING AND THE ARTS

Smith Farm's artist-in-residence program encourages Cancer patients to find healing through viewing, discussion, and production of visual arts, music, storytelling, and creative writing.

President and CEO: Michael Lerner  
1632 U Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20009  
(202)483-8600  
[www.smithfarm.com](http://www.smithfarm.com)

## RESOURCES

•For information on the Arts Endowment's Office for AccessAbility visit: [www.nea.gov](http://www.nea.gov)

For the online publication on how to make cultural events fully accessible: **Design for Accessibility: A Cultural Administrators Handbook**: [www.nea.gov](http://www.nea.gov)

•For information on how to better advertise your organization's accessibility and accommodate those with disabilities, to download images of 12 access symbols, **The Disabilities Access Symbols Project** visit [www.gag.org](http://www.gag.org)

•For information on how to make museums fully accessible, or to purchase the **Everyone's Welcome: The ADA & Museums**, visit [www.aam-us.org](http://www.aam-us.org)

•For more information on if your organization meets requirements for accessibility to those with disabilities or download the **Arts Accessibility Checklist**, visit [www.arts.endow.gov](http://www.arts.endow.gov)



## WVSA ARTS CONNECTION (WVSA)

WVSA ARTs connection is a unique non-profit organization providing multiple creative environments, opportunities, and experiences for children and adults through arts-infused programming.

President: Rick Offner  
1100 16th Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20036  
(202) 296-9100  
[www.wvsarts.org](http://www.wvsarts.org)



## DC OFFICE OF DISABILITY RIGHTS

The District of Columbia Office of Disability Rights ensures that the programs, services, benefits, activities and facilities operated or funded by the District of Columbia are fully accessible to, and useable by people with disabilities.

Director: Derek Orr  
441 4th Street, NW Suite 729 North  
Washington, DC 20001  
(240)727-5055  
[www.odr.dc.gov](http://www.odr.dc.gov)



## The Role of the Arts in Special Education

Written by Elizabeth Pisano

Should the arts play a significant role in special education? Teachers of children with disabilities answer this question with a resounding “yes!” The benefits of an arts enriched education are obvious for children of all learning levels. These benefits however, become more amplified when teaching children with disabilities. More and more of these teachers have come to rely on arts in their classrooms to teach everything from cooperation to relaxation. Arguably the most important of these benefits is the undeniable feeling of inclusion the arts help to foster in classroom settings.

The arts provide a chance to express experiences and feelings other people might not initially understand, giving disabled students more opportunities to feel academically and socially included in school. Additionally, self-confidence develops from feelings of success, and artistic creation helps to cultivate these in the classroom. Teachers say that through this type of educational programming, they watch their special needs students “beginning to understand their own extraordinary imaginations through the visual and performing arts, and then the possibilities are unlimited”.

Clearly, alternative methods of instruction are necessary for students with disabilities. Incorporation of the arts into elementary curriculum promotes an environment conducive to learning that is ultimately valuable to children of all ages and abilities. Thus the question posed should not be should the arts have a role in special education, but rather how big can we possibly make that role?

### SAIL PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

The School for ARTs in Learning (SAIL) is a K-8 public charter school providing multiple creative environments, opportunities, and experiences for all children through arts-infused academic programs.

1100 16th Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20036  
[www.sailpcs.org](http://www.sailpcs.org)

### OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION , DC PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Aspires to be recognized and respected as a leader in urban special education. Working to ensure that students with disabilities become successful adults holding good jobs, living independently and engaging in the community.

825 North Capitol Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20002  
[www.dcps.dc.gov](http://www.dcps.dc.gov)



The DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities is pleased to announce the next round of 2010 grant opportunities. We invite you to explore artistic opportunities to showcase your creativity.

**Grant Opportunities  
Grant Writing Assistance  
Grants 101 Video**

**WORKSHOP WEDNESDAYS:**

DCCAHA is offering free assistance to help you complete your grant application. Let our staff help you bring your best ideas and most exciting projects to the table. **New this year, DCCAHA is also offering targeted assistance in completing its final report forms.**

For a complete schedule of upcoming workshops visit [dcarts.dc.gov](http://dcarts.dc.gov)

## UPCOMING DEADLINES:

**Thursday, October 15, 2009 7:00pm**

Capital Region Touring  
Elders Learning through the Arts  
Hip Hop Community Arts

**Friday, October 16, 2009 7:00pm**

Artists in Schools  
Artist Teaching Fellowships  
Young Artists Program

**ELDERS LEARNING THROUGH THE ARTS PROGRAM:**

The Elders Learning Through the Arts Program (ELTA) offers grants to individual artists and arts organizations serving seniors, 60 and older, in arts programs.

**Grant Amount:**

Up to \$5,000

**Deadline for Application:**

**Thursday, October 15, 2009**

**Time: 7:00pm**

For more information contact

[victoria.murray@dc.gov](mailto:victoria.murray@dc.gov)

**HIP HOP COMMUNITY ARTS:**

The Hip Hop Community Arts Program offers funds to individuals and organizations for programs that encourage the growth of quality Hip Hop arts activities throughout the city.

**Grant Amount:**

Individuals up to \$2,500

Organizations up to \$5,000

**Deadline for Application:**

**Thursday, October 15, 2009**

**Time: 7:00pm**

For more information contact

[victoria.murray@dc.gov](mailto:victoria.murray@dc.gov)

**YOUNG ARTISTS PROGRAM:**

The Young Artists Program funds individual artists between the ages of 18 to 30 through the Emerging Artist Category and Community Service Category.

**Grant Amount:**

Category 1 up to \$2,500

Category 2 up to \$3,500

**Deadline for Application:**

**Friday, October 16, 2009**

**Time: 7:00pm**

For more information contact

[moshe.adams@dc.gov](mailto:moshe.adams@dc.gov)

**ARTS TEACHER FELLOWSHIPS & ARTISTS IN SCHOOLS:**

Arts Teacher Fellowships & Artists in Schools funds DC Public Schools and Public Charter Schools to support the development and implementation of innovative art programs according to DCPS Arts Content Standards.

**Grant Amount:**

Up to \$2,500

**Deadline for Application:**

**Friday, October 16, 2009**

**Time: 7:00pm**

For more information contact

[samuela.miranda@dc.gov](mailto:samuella.miranda@dc.gov)

**CAPITAL REGION TOURING PROGRAM:**

The Capital Region Touring Program funds presenters and organizations to book performing artists included on the Maryland State Arts Council's touring artist roster.

**Grant Amount:**

Up to \$3,500.00

**Deadline for Application:**

**Thursday, October 15, 2009**

**Time: 7:00pm**

For more information contact

[cara.brown@dc.gov](mailto:cara.brown@dc.gov)



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## CELEBRATING LOCAL ART BY

Beth Baldwin  
Jason Clark  
Tim Conlon  
Liani Foster  
Amber Robles-Gordon  
Eve Hennessa  
Michael Dax Iacovone  
Anne Marchand  
Cory Oberndorfer  
Michael Platt & Carol A. Beane  
Kelly Towles  
Aniekan Udofia  
Colin Winterbottom  
featuring The New Community for Children

## Windows into DC

@ The Walter E. Washington Convention Center  
an Outdoor Art Gallery Experience

## WINDOWS INTO DC UNVEILED

The **DC Creates! Public Art** program of the **DCCA** and sponsoring partner **Washington Convention Center Authority** collaborated on a new approach to public art by transforming retail windows into engaging works of art. **Windows into DC** includes 14 installations of artwork accessible any time of the day or night. All of the featured artists are based in Washington, DC and three are located in the historic Shaw community, including one youth organization.

A ribbon cutting was held on Tuesday, September 29 with **Mayor Adrian Fenty**, Ward 2 Councilman **Jack Evans**, Convention Center President and General Manager **Gregory O'Dell** and DCCA Executive Director **Gloria Nauden**. Artists were present to discuss their works with visitors and guests during a walking tour immediately following the ribbon cutting.

For more information contact [Deirdre.Ehlen@dc.gov](mailto:Deirdre.Ehlen@dc.gov).

Photos by Vikrum Aiwer





## AN EVENING WITH THE POET LAUREATE

DCCAHA celebrated **Dolores Kendrick's** 10th year as DC's Poet Laureate at the **Heritage Center at the Navy Memorial** on September 22nd, 2009. The evening included speeches praising Kendrick's poetry and work as Laureate by distinguished guests, including **Anne Ashmore-Hudson**, Chair of DCCAHA, **Dorothy McSweeney**, Chair Emerita of DCCAHA, **Gloria Nauden**, Executive Director of DCCAHA, **Bill McSweeney**, Board Member of the **Kennedy Center**, and **E. Ethelbert Miller**, poet and former Commissioner of DCCAHA. The celebration climaxed with a moving poetry reading by Kendrick, accompanied by the **Capitol City String Quartet**.

Dolores Kendrick is DC's second Poet Laureate; the position was re-instated for her after several years of non-existence. In her position as Poet Laureate, Kendrick established the **Poet-in-Progress** program for high school students to write and publish poetry and was invited to speak at the first **National Book Fair** on the Mall. Her poetry is emblazoned at the New York Avenue Metro Station and on a steel sculpture on the corner of 9th and S st. NW, aptly entitled "Epoch," as Kendrick truly has transformed the role of Poet Laureate into one of outreach and activism.

**E. Ethelbert Miller** reflects on the celebration of our beloved Poet Laureate:

"When I think of Dolores Kendrick, I think of her as Lady Kendrick or maybe the First Lady of Poetry. If the strong men and artists have names like Duke and Count, how do we describe Dolores? What royalty is left to describe her splendor? Why did we wait ten years to honor her? Why only now have our eyes been given back their sight?"

Photo by Reggie Saunders



## LANGSTON HUGHES WAY

On Saturday, September 19th, 2009, **Mayor Fenty** renamed the 1300 block of V st. NW, "**Langston Hughes Way**" after the famed African American poet. Restaurateur, artist and activist Andy Shallal of Busboys and Poets and Eatonville restaurant was the driving force behind this dedication. Shallal has been working to get the District to do more to honor the Harlem Renaissance--and D.C.'s contribution to the era. [www.busboysandpoets.com](http://www.busboysandpoets.com)



## THE AMERICAN QUILT: WEAVING THE DISTRICT'S FUTURE

DCCAHA in partnership with **The Textile Museum**, hosted **The American Quilt: Weaving the District's Future**, an American Masterpieces project sponsored by the **National Endowment for the Arts** (September 9-27, 2009). The program aimed to enhance the Washington, DC community's appreciation and understanding of the rich and diverse traditions of the textile art of quilting. Quilting is not only treasured as an American masterpiece, but it is also a way of documenting history and examining social circumstance.

Citywide workshops for both youth and adults were lead by **Pat Autenrieth**, a master quilter, mixed media artist, and associate professor at the **Corcoran College of Art & Design**. During the workshops, participants designed and quilted squares for inclusion in the dynamic community quilt. Participants also had the opportunity to submit their ideas for a square online. In addition, there was a special guest lecture by world renowned artist **Faith Ringgold** entitled "**Story Quilts: An American History**." The project culminated with the unveiling of the community quilt on September 27 at the Textile Museum.

For more information contact

**Victoria.Murray@dc.gov** or visit [www.textilemuseum.org](http://www.textilemuseum.org)

## EVENTS

### accelerate

a juried exhibition of 15 emerging artists with disabilities



### ACCELERATE AT THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

**VSA Arts**, with support from **Volkswagen Group of America, Inc.**, presents the eighth annual exhibition of artwork by young, emerging artists with disabilities. The 15 artists were chosen by a panel of judges, and have been rewarded a total of \$60,000 to begin their careers in the arts. This year's exhibition is entitled "Accelerate" as the artists were asked to evaluate the personal reasons that accelerate their desire to create art.

**Dates:**  
**September 10, 2009 - January 6, 2010**

**Location:**  
**S. Dillon Ripley Center of the Smithsonian Institution**  
**1100 Jefferson Drive, SW**  
**Washington, DC 20560**

For more information visit  
[www.si.edu](http://www.si.edu)



### APA FILM FESTIVAL

**DC APA Film** presents the 10th Annual Asian Pacific American Film Festival at locations throughout the Washington D.C. area. Festival highlights: 50+ films, a filmmaking workshop, daily prizes, panel discussion, and much more.

**Dates:** **October 1-10, 2009**

For more information visit  
[www.apafilm.org](http://www.apafilm.org)

### THE MAYOR'S ANNUAL DISABILITY AWARENESS CONFERENCE

October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month. In recognition of this significant month, several District Government agencies and commissions are hosting the Mayor's Annual Disability Awareness Conference – Employment for All.

**Date:**  
**October 6, 2009**

For more information visit  
[www.newsroom.dc.gov](http://www.newsroom.dc.gov)

### RED BULL ART OF CAN

**Red Bull** presents **Red Bull Art of Can**, an exhibition of artwork created out of Red Bull Energy Drink and Red Bull Simply Cola cans by 56 diverse artists, selected by a panel of judges for both their creativity and their execution of the pieces. This traveling exhibition will fit perfectly into DC, as one of the artists has depicted a donkey and an elephant, the animal representations of our nation's predominant political parties, finding common ground.

**Dates:**  
**October 8 - October 19, 2009**

**Location:**  
**DC Galleria**  
**Main Lobby of Union Station**  
**50 Massachusetts Ave NE**  
**Washington, DC 20002**

For more information visit  
[www.redbullartofcan.com](http://www.redbullartofcan.com)



Art by Sergio Aleman



### GREEN FESTIVAL

The **Washington Convention Center** is hosting the sixth annual **Green Festival**, the nation's largest green consumer living event. This year, the festival will highlight environmental sustainability issues.

**Dates:**  
**October 10-October 11, 2009**

For more information visit  
[www.greenfestivals.org](http://www.greenfestivals.org)

### DANA TAI SOON BURGESS & CO. PRESENTS "ISLAND"

The **Dana Tai Soon Burgess Dance Company** is proud to present "Island," a story of Asian immigrants and their attempt to enter America through Angel Island, CA in the early 20th century. This groundbreaking contemporary dance compilation examines the relationships between Americans of various backgrounds and ethnicities.

**Dates:** **October 9-October 11, 2009**

**Location:**  
**Dance Place**  
**3225 8th Street, NE**  
**Washington, DC 20017**

For more information visit  
[www.danceplace.org](http://www.danceplace.org)



## WASHINGTON NATIONAL OPERA: VERDI'S FALSTAFF

What happens when an old knight who fancies himself a ladies' man sends identical letters to two married women? Plenty, as Sir John Falstaff, Shakespeare's drunken but much beloved rascal, discovers when the merry wives of Windsor--and a few furious husbands--decide to teach him a lesson. **Verdi's** last opera shows the master at the peak of his powers and displays some of his most inventive melodies.



**Dates:**

**October 10-30, 2009**

**Location:**

**The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Opera House  
2700 F Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20566**

For more information visit

[www.kennedy-center.org](http://www.kennedy-center.org)

## CITYDANCE ENSEMBLE: LATITUDE

**CityDance Ensemble** brings choreographers from around the world to the Washington stage for an evening of contemporary dance that knows no boundaries.

**Dates:**

**October 29-October 30, 2009**

**Location:**

**The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Terrace Theater  
2700 F Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20566**

For more information visit

[www.kennedy-center.org](http://www.kennedy-center.org)

## EL TEATRO DE DANZA CONTEMPORANEA DE EL SALVADOR

The first dance company in the history of El Salvador, **El Teatro de Danza Contemporanea de El Salvador** (TDC) comprises contemporary, classical and indigenous dance styles as a means to preserve a distinctive Central American history and culture. TDC performs around the world, but is returning to its U.S. headquarters in Washington, DC for two weekend performances you don't want to miss!

**Dates:**

**October 17-October 18, 2009**

**Location:**

**Dance Place  
3225 8th Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20017**

For more information visit

[www.danceplace.org](http://www.danceplace.org)



Photo by Stephen Baranovics

## DAKSHINA AND THE THREE GRACES

**Dakshina/Daniel Phoenix Singh Dance Company** presents Presidential Honorees **Alarmel Valli, Madhavi Mudgal** and **Leela Samson** from India at the historic **Lincoln Theatre**. Along with the guest artists Dakshina will present its award winning dances.

**Dates:**

**October 23 - October 24, 2009**

**Location:**

**Lincoln Theatre  
1215 U Street NW  
Washington DC 20009**

For more information visit

[www.dakshina.org](http://www.dakshina.org)



Photo by Paul Gordon Emerson



## SAVE THE DATE: ART SALON @ CORCORAN GALLERY OF ART

The next installment will include live music, sketches, and riveting artists.

**Chanel Compton | Tim Conlon  
| Aniekan Udofia**

**CORCORAN**  
GALLERY OF ART • COLLEGE of ART + DESIGN

Current exhibits include:  
Sargent and the Sea  
Edward Burtynsky: Oil

**Date:** Thursday,  
**October 29th, 2009**  
**Location:** 500 Seventeenth  
Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20006  
**Time:** 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM

For more information contact  
[marquis.perkins@dc.gov](mailto:marquis.perkins@dc.gov)

## POST ART SALON: @ ANACOSTIA GALLERY

The fourth installment of DCCAH's Art Salon was held at **Anacostia Art Gallery** on Thursday, September 17th. Hosted by gallery owner, **Juanita "Busy Bee" Britton**, the night featured works by artists **Tendani Mpulabusi**, **Jahi Foster-Bey**, DCCAH fellow, **Jonathan French**, children in the **Corcoran ArtReach** program, and a performance by third-level students in **The Washington School of Ballet** (Southeast Campus). The music of **DJ Adrian Loving** flowed while people exchanged ideas and admired the art. DCCAH launched Art Salon to bring together members of Washington's creative community who are shaping the next era of art in DC.

To view photographs of all Art Salons, visit our Facebook album: [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)



## UPCOMING ART SALON ARTISTS:



Chanel Compton



Tim Conlon



Brandon Hill



Aniekan Udofia





### ARTIST'S POEM

The statement below is from one of the poets who worked on the **Matt Barinholtz** project. This patient both wrote poetry and created original artworks that will be part of the canoe sculpture in the refurbished **Saint Elizabeths**, representative of patients' individual histories and hopes for the future.

#### My Experience by W.W.

Since I have been working on my art assignment, it gave me a sense of awareness that something great was coming to the art and music world. My participation in it helped me express how I feel about the world around me - that gave me a sense of bliss. I felt like I was in paradise [during the workshops]. Mere words cannot express from my innermost being a flood of light and joy that comes from the world of music and art today! I can better appreciate fine arts.



Art by Nestor Madalengoitia

### SAINT ELIZABETHS PROJECT

Six DC artists have collaborated with psychiatric patients in **Saint Elizabeths Hospital** to create four murals and two installations as part of the grand rebuilding of the hospital, set to be completed in early 2010. This collaboration was made possible by the **DC Creates! Public Art** program of the **DCCA**.

**Dr. Patrick Canavan**, CEO of Saint Elizabeths, poignantly describes the impact this project has had on both the hospital community and the patients:

"The grant from the D.C. Commission on the Arts and Humanities for public art at the new Saint Elizabeths Hospital building has both connected us to our history and moved us forward. Saint Elizabeths has a long history of using creative arts to help those in recovery from mental illness reconnect with their deepest, most expressive self. Having professional artists teaching and collaborating with persons in our care has been exciting. Not only does this effort harken back to the best days of our past, when Saint Es was in the forefront of modern treatment, I believe it foretells our new spirit and future, when everyone in our care can express themselves in meaningful ways!."

"...One problem that happens with mental illness is that people become isolated. Those in our care are enlivened by the art workshops, are better for the moments of connection, and are more able to see beauty and meaning and possibility while they move forward in their recovery... Artistic collaborations support the validation of a patient's self-worth as a contributing member of society who can return to the community with greater confidence."

### ARTISTS INVOLVED

#### Matt Barinholtz

"At Saint Elizabeths, each patient is part of a large community of individuals on journeys across personal oceans, floating closer to recovery and life outside the hospital."

[barinholtz@gmail.com](mailto:barinholtz@gmail.com)

#### Sheila Crider

"My mural for Saint Elizabeths is composed from line drawings done by 6 forensic patients in workshops conducted this past spring."

[www.sheilacrider.com](http://www.sheilacrider.com)

#### Bill Gibbons

"The Saint Elizabeths project was an opportunity to create a mural that embodies the history of a great institution. It will be installed in the entrance lobby of the hospital's new facility, and shows Saint Elizabeths' original building as it appeared around 1925, creating a window on the past to remind visitors of the long and distinguished history of the hospital. It has been a great experience working with the dedicated staff of the hospital and the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities to realize this project."

[www.billgibbons.com](http://www.billgibbons.com)

#### Walter Kravitz

"My suspended public art work for the new Saint Elizabeths Hospital will be a series of floating butterfly - shapes with bright translucent color simulating stained glass. The mythical butterfly is a symbol of transformation and therefore would be an important message through a visual form for all who are there on a daily basis."

[ekravitz@gmu.edu](mailto:ekravitz@gmu.edu)

#### Nestor Madalengoitia

"These pictures represent four windows to different views of Washington D.C. which patients could enjoy in their near future. Public art brings people together to see themselves in their community with richer possibilities."

[www.nestormad.home.att.net](http://www.nestormad.home.att.net)

#### Roderick Turner

The patients involvement with the research and artistic development of my mural has not only helped me but has also provided them with the necessary tools to develop their own artistic theory and practice.

[red.turner@live.com](mailto:red.turner@live.com)





## ANNOUNCEMENTS OF THE SEMI-FINALISTS FOR TAKOMA PARK METRO UNDERPASS

DCCAH has selected 5 artists to create a site specific proposal for the **Takoma Metro Underpass**. The goal of the project is to create a vibrant and inviting gateway to Takoma, DC. The colorful artwork will provide an "avenue" for residents, commuters and visitors to enjoy and admire.

To view the semi-finalists' proposals, join us for a community open house at the Takoma DC library on **Thursday, November 5, 2009 from 6:00 – 8:00 pm**. The proposals will be on display at the library until **Friday, November 6th at 5:30pm**.

For more information contact [deirdre.ehlen@dc.gov](mailto:deirdre.ehlen@dc.gov)

### **Sam Gilliam, DC**

Painter

Sam Gilliam is a nationally renowned African-American abstract painter with works in major art institutions across the U.S. Here in DC, Gilliam has works at the Hirshhorn, the National Gallery of Art, the Smithsonian American Art Museum, the Phillips Collection, the Corcoran and Howard University's Art Gallery.

[www.marshamateykgallery.com](http://www.marshamateykgallery.com)

### **Cheryl Foster, DC**

Multimedia artist

"I feel the key to a successful public art project lie in the artist understanding the energy and emotion that the host community wants the artwork to evoke from viewers."

[www.cherylfostersart.com](http://www.cherylfostersart.com)

### **Myklebust + Sears, WI**

3-D Artist team

"Since 1993, the collaborative team of Andrea Myklebust and Stanton Sears have created sculptural works which entertain, educate and delight. Myklebust and Sears believe that powerful art helps to create vibrant communities."

[www.myklebustsears.com](http://www.myklebustsears.com)

### **Mixed Up Mosaics, NY**

Glass design

"Mixed-up Mosaics is a design company specializing in stained glass materials that strives to produce the hottest trends for our partners."

[www.mixed-upmosaics.com](http://www.mixed-upmosaics.com)

### **City Arts, Inc., DC**

Mixed Media

"City Arts creates vibrant public murals and mosaics in Washington, DC and beyond through a collaborative process with community members."

[www.cityartsdc.org](http://www.cityartsdc.org)

# IMAGINE



The **Takoma Metro Underpass** is a project through the **DC Creates! Public Art Program** in collaboration with the **Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) Art in Transit Program** and the Takoma community.



The DCCAHA Artist Touring Roster showcases the rich artistic talent the District has to offer. Artists across all disciplines of dance, theatre and music have been chosen to represent DC to the rest of the nation and the world. Many of these artists are native to DC, and all of them practice their arts in the District.

## **JOIN THE ARTIST ROSTER!**

For more information contact [cara.brown@dc.gov](mailto:cara.brown@dc.gov)

## PARTNERSHIPS

*The collaborative efforts between DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities and each of our partners is to actively strive to create and maintain relationships with artists, arts educators and their resources. Together, we are working to make art relevant to working artists and their communities.*

### ARTOMATIC

Provides a forum for artists to convene, perform and exhibit, strengthening Washington's arts community.

**George Koch**, Chair  
1629 K Street, NW Suite 300  
Washington, DC 20006  
(202) 607-0879  
Web: [www.artomatic.org](http://www.artomatic.org)  
Email: [Info@artomatic.org](mailto:Info@artomatic.org)



### CULTURECAPITAL.COM

CultureCapital.com connects you to Greater Washington DC's thriving arts and culture community. This virtual arts marketplace provides comprehensive information and reliable ticket-purchase options for shows, performances, classes and exhibitions offered by more than 300 regional arts organizations and cultural institutions, making it the region's richest and most diverse collection of arts and culture activities.

**Eileen Rappoport**, Vice President Operations  
Cultural Alliance of Greater Washington  
1436 U Street NW, Suite 103  
Washington, DC 20009  
Phone (202) 638-2406  
Web: [www.culturecapital.com](http://www.culturecapital.com)  
Email: [info@culturalcapital.com](mailto:info@culturalcapital.com)



### DC ARTS & HUMANITIES EDUCATION COLLABORATIVE

The DC Collaborative believes that the arts—inclusive of music, visual arts, theater, dance, and literary arts—are central to the education of every student.

**La'Tasha Banks**, Program Coordinator  
1835 14th Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20009  
Phone (202) 204-7750  
Web: [www.dccollaborative.org](http://www.dccollaborative.org)  
Email: [latasha@dccollaborative.org](mailto:latasha@dccollaborative.org)



### HUMANITIES COUNCIL OF WASHINGTON, DC

The Humanities Council of Washington, DC is a private, non-profit organization that funds and conducts humanities-based cultural and educational programs for Washingtonians in every ward. It is not a Federal or a District agency.

**Lisa Alfred**, Deputy Director  
925 U Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20001  
Phone (202) 387-8391  
Web: [www.wdchumanities.org](http://www.wdchumanities.org)  
Email: [lalfred@wdchumanities.org](mailto:lalfred@wdchumanities.org)



### NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

The National Endowment for the Arts is a public agency dedicated to supporting excellence in the arts, both new and established; bringing the arts to all Americans; and providing leadership in arts education. Established by Congress in 1965 as an independent agency of the federal government, the Endowment is the nation's largest annual funder of the arts, bringing great art to all 50 states, including rural areas, inner cities, and military bases.

#### National Endowment for the Arts

An independent federal agency  
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20506  
202-833-4000  
Web: [www.nea.gov](http://www.nea.gov)



### WASHINGTON AREA LAWYERS FOR THE ARTS (WALA)

WALA provides education, advocacy and volunteer legal services through workshops and seminars, legal clinics for artists and arts organizations, and pro-bono referral services.

901 New York Avenue, NW  
Suite P1  
Washington, DC 20001-4413  
Phone (202) 289-4440  
Web: [www.thewala.org](http://www.thewala.org)



### WASHINGTON POSTPOINTS

Find out more about the Washington Post's commitment to the community through PostPoints Partnerships, promotional advertising and auction items please visit  
Web: [www.washpost.com/community](http://www.washpost.com/community)





DC COMMISSION ON  
THE ARTS & HUMANITIES

*Below is a quick reference sheet of available grants opportunities.*

## DC COMMISSION ON THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES GRANT OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDIVIDUALS

Programs	Description
City Arts Projects	Encourages the growth of quality arts activities throughout the city, supports local artists, and makes arts experiences accessible to District residents.
Arts Education Projects	Provides training and in-depth exploration of artistic disciplines to students from pre-K through 12th grades.
Folk & Traditional Arts Program	Provides funding for artists and arts organizations practicing or supporting folk traditions.
Hip Hop Community Arts	Funds programs that encourage the growth of quality Hip Hop arts activities.
Elders Learning Through The Arts	Funds artists and arts organizations that provide training and in-depth exploration of artistic disciplines to seniors.
Small Projects Program	Provides funds to individual artists and arts organizations for small-scale arts projects with budgets under \$4,000.
Artist Fellowship Program (Performing & Literary Arts)	Provides support for individual artists who make a significant contribution to the arts.
Arts Teacher Fellowships (DC Public and Charter School teachers only)	Funds DC Public Schools and public charter schools to support the development and implementation of innovative teaching strategies according to DCPS Arts Content Standards.
Young Artist Program	Funds young artists between the ages of 18 to 30 years old.
Public Art Building Communities Grants	Funds individuals and nonprofit organizations for the creation and installation of permanent public art projects with a life span of at least five years.
DC Creates Public Art	Funds the commission or purchase of works of high quality art located in public places throughout the District, including District government buildings, schools, libraries, parks, hospitals and any other sites under direct jurisdiction and stewardship of the District.

*For comprehensive information go to [www.dcartarts@dc.gov](http://www.dcartarts@dc.gov)*



## DC COMMISSION ON THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES GRANT OPPORTUNITIES FOR ORGANIZATIONS

Programs	Description
Grants-In-Aid	Funds general operating expenses and financial assistance to nonprofit arts organizations.
City Arts Projects	Encourages the growth of quality arts activities throughout the city, supports local artists, and makes arts experiences accessible to District residents.
Arts Education Projects	Provides training and in-depth exploration of artistic disciplines to students from pre-K through 12th grades.
Festivals DC	Funds arts festivals or festivals with significant arts components that: encourage growth and promote awareness of quality arts activities throughout the city, support local artists, stimulate economic benefits to the community, promote a sense of community identity, and make arts experiences accessible to District residents and visitors.
East of the River Arts Program	Funds targeted at Wards 7 and 8.
DC UPSTART Program	Capacity-building program for small to mid-size arts organizations.
Folk & Traditional Arts Program	Provides funding for artists and arts organizations practicing or supporting folk traditions.
Hip Hop Community Arts	Funds programs that encourage the growth of quality Hip Hop arts activities.
Elders Learning Through The Arts	Funds artists and arts organizations that provide training and in-depth exploration of artistic disciplines to seniors.
Artists In Schools	Grants that encourage creative arts education projects in D.C. Public Schools (DCPS) and Public Charter Schools and support the development and implementation of innovative teaching strategies aligned with DCPS Arts Content Standards.
Small Projects Program	Provides funds to individual artists and arts organizations for small-scale arts projects with budgets under \$4,000.
Capital Region Touring	Funds presenters to book performing artists included on the Maryland State Arts Council's artist touring roster.
Cultural Facilities program	Provides funds to help defray costs related to the improvement, expansion and rehabilitation of existing buildings owned or leased by nonprofit cultural institutions.
Public Art Building Communities Grants	Funds and nonprofit organizations for the creation and installation of permanent public art projects with a life span of at least five years.
DC Creates Public Art	Funds the commission or purchase of works of high quality art located in public places throughout the District, including District government buildings, schools, libraries, parks, hospitals and any other sites under direct jurisdiction and stewardship of the District.
American Recovery & Reinvestment Stimulus Grant	Grant supports, in full or partially, positions that are critical to an organization's artistic mission and that are in jeopardy or have been eliminated as a result of the current economic climate.

*For comprehensive information go to [www.dcart@dc.gov](http://www.dcart@dc.gov)*



## COMMISSIONERS

**Anne Ashmore-Hudson, Ph.D.**, Chair WARD 1  
**Bernard Richardson** WARD 1  
**Rhona Wolfe Friedman, J.D.**, Vice Chair WARD 2  
**Lou Hill Davidson** WARD 2  
**Rebecca Fishman** WARD 2  
**Marsha Ralls** WARD 2  
**Michael R. Sonnenreich** WARD 2  
**Christopher Cowan** WARD 3  
**Rogelio Maxwell** WARD 3  
**Deborah Royster** WARD 4  
**Judith Terra** WARD 4  
**Lavinia Wohlfarth** WARD 5  
**Susan Clampitt**, WARD 6  
**Marvin Joseph Bowser** WARD 7  
**Tendani Mpulubusi** WARD 8  
**Philippa Hughes**, At -Large  
**Ian Williams**, At-Large

## Poet Laureate

**Dolores Kendrick**  
District of Columbia

## MISSION

Our Mission at The DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities is to provide grants, programs and educational activities that encourage diverse artistic expressions and learning opportunities, so that all District of Columbia residents and visitors can experience the rich culture of our city.

## ARTIFACT

### *Did you know ...*

Two billion people worldwide are directly affected by a disability. That's 1/3 of the human race. Of this population, 12% live in the United States.





## DCCA STAFF



### CATHERINE CLEARY: EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

**Catherine Cleary** has worked at DCCA as our Director of Grants & Legislative Affairs for a year and a half. Catherine has demonstrated an outstanding work ethic, delivering above and beyond service to constituents as well as working astutely on important matters involving grant programs. She is a great resource for everyone in the office as well as grantees. Between the tap dancing classes she conducts for youth and working until the wee hours of the night juggling a million projects at once, she exemplifies what it means to be public servant. Both a leader and team player at the Commission, we applaud her hard work and her sense of humor as we work toward a world class arts institution.

#### STAFF

**Gloria Nauden** Executive Director  
**Ayris Scales** Deputy Director  
**Moshe Adams** Legislative and Grants Assistant  
**Curtia Ashton** Staff Assistant/Human Resources Advisor  
**Ebony Blanks** Arts Program Coordinator  
**Cara Brown** Executive Assistant to the Director & Marketing Coordinator  
**Catherine Cleary** Director of Grants and Legislative Affairs  
**Rachel Dickerson** Public Art Manager  
**Deirdre Ehlen** DC Creates Public Art Coordinator  
**Ernest A. Ford** Videographer  
**Lamont A. Harrell** Director of Partnerships and Development  
**Charlese Jennings** Information Specialist  
**Yuyu Kim** Graphic Designer/Animator  
**Rebecca Landwehr** Development & Outreach Assistant  
**Rod Little** Graphics Consultant  
**Shyree Mezick** ArtNews Editor & Community Outreach  
**Samuel Miranda** Arts Education Consultant  
**Victoria Murray** Arts Program Coordinator  
**Carolyn Parker** Office Manager  
**Keona Pearson** Legislative and Grants Assistant  
**Marquis Perkins** Director of Marketing  
**Tala Abu Rahmeh** Program Assistant  
**Lisa Richards Toney** Arts Program Coordinator  
**Zoma Wallace** Art Bank Coordinator

#### INTERNS

**Alexandra Giniger** Community Outreach Intern  
**Taliesin Gabriel** Howard University  
**Leonice Joseph** Folk Art Intern  
**Elizabeth Pisano** Arts Education Intern  
**Dominic Swain** Howard University

#### GET CONNECTED!



DC COMMISSION ON  
THE ARTS & HUMANITIES

1371 Harvard St. N.W.  
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 (202) 724-5613  
 (202) 724-4493  
 TTY/TDD  
[www.dccarts.dc.gov](http://www.dccarts.dc.gov)



ADRIAN M. FENTY, MAYOR  
 District of Columbia